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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

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TOPIC Jueterbog Airfield

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 1 September 1955

REFERENCES

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Jueterbog airfield between 8 July and 4 August 1955:
- 8 July. At 1600, one four-engine aircraft landed at the field and took off again at 1800. The propeller engines were mounted under the wings; the upper side of the wings was smooth. The plane had a single tail unit and seemed to be of an older type.

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No crates were unloaded at [REDACTED] but it was noted that trucks loaded with [REDACTED] from the dispersal aircraft parking area.

21 July. Between [REDACTED], three Il-28s with [REDACTED] fuel tanks and sleeve targets flew over the firing range where [REDACTED] fired at the targets. Each Il-28 was aloft for 45 minutes. At 0 [REDACTED] fighters from the western hangar [REDACTED] at the eastern end of the runway. These fighters were parked [REDACTED]; the aircraft on the right was parked to rear of the one on [REDACTED]. Individual groups were dispersed at a short distance from one another. [REDACTED] four fighter elements of two took off at intervals of about 20 seconds each. After about one minute the next 4 elements took off maintaining the same interval between elements. The last eight repeated this same take-off procedure as the other two groups. The aircraft flew in formations of eight planes each and crossed over the field in close order formation at an altitude of about 1,000 meters. After about 20 minutes, the jet fighters landed again. The landing procedure required 4 minutes 30 seconds. Five such formation flights were practiced until the afternoon.

22 July. At 0900, the same formation flights by jet fighters were practiced as observed on the preceding day. No details could be learned.

25 July. There was no air activity. Except for four alert planes which were parked at the eastern end of the runway, no other aircraft were seen on the airfield.

26 July. There was no air activity because of rainfall during the morning. At noon a total of 12 MiG-17s with auxiliary fuel tanks were towed from the northern hangars and parked in a line east of the little wood. These aircraft took off at various intervals of 15 to 30 minutes for individual flights which lasted for 20 to 25 minutes each. [REDACTED] fuel tanks were mounted under the wings of these MiG-17s at the same [REDACTED]. Similar fuel tanks are mounted on MiG-15s. After the take-off, the planes [REDACTED] toward the Gola Hill and returned from this direction. Air activity was [REDACTED] at [REDACTED].

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these planes was seen. The Il-10s left Markendorf firing range and headed to the north. At 1400, jet fighters practiced flying in formations of two and three. Air activity was terminated at about midnight. Il-28s were also involved in night practices. These planes towing sleeve targets circled over the firing range. They were caught by searchlights. Light AA guns fired at the sleeve targets.

It was observed that except for about four MiG-15 almost all other jet fighters stationed at Jueterbog airfield were MiG-17s. The MiG-15s were parked in the western hangars. It was further observed that all aircraft in flight were MiG-17s. The new jet fighters

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One of the new aircraft was [redacted]. This plane had the differentiating characteristics of MiG-15s including three boundary layer fences, wing roots, etc. In addition to these aircraft, 1 or 2 U-MiG-15s were parked in the western hangars. A total of at least 50 MiG-17s were stationed at Jueterbog airfield. It was undetermined if additional aircraft were stationed there, because apparently not all aircraft were simultaneously involved in air activity. Four Il-28s were parked in the northwest hangar. So far, these planes were only used, as target representation, with sleeve targets for light AA guns.

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2. On 22 July and on 3 August, 8 tank trucks and 12 tank trucks [redacted] to the fuel depot at the field.

3. The power unit of MiG-17 [redacted] was tested at the engine test stand several times. Each time the engine was run at full speed for three minutes and then stopped.

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4. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Jueterbog airfield:  
 1 August. In the evening, three Il-28s and one twin-engined transport aircraft were parked at the taxiway in front of the southwestern hangar. No jet fighters were observed. There was no air activity.  
 2 August. At about 1500, about 30 jet fighters were seen in front of the northern hangars, about 25 jet fighters were parked [redacted] in front of the western hangars, 4 jet fighters were seen at the eastern runway end, and 5 Il-28s were parked in front of the northwestern hangar. Maintenance work by about 100 men was done on the planes parked in front of the northern hangars. The tails of 4 to 6 jet fighters were removed.  
 Between 1400 and 1530, there was slight air activity by jet fighters. Individual aircraft made local flights. One flight by an element of two aircraft was seen. The planes landed individually.  
 9 August. A total of about 45 jet fighters and 2 Il-28s were seen at the taxiway. An alert flight of 4 [redacted] were parked at the eastern end of the runway. At 1110, one element of [redacted] fighters approached the field at intervals of 20 to 25 minutes from [redacted] section. After the elements of two planes were dispersed, the aircraft [redacted] individually. The last element landed about 1230. These jet fighters had a greater sweep back. Pitot tubes were seen on each end of the wings.

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5. Jueterbog airfield was occupied by jet fighters and Il-28s. During the period 4 July to 5 August, air activity was observed when there was favorable weather. Jet fighters generally practiced flying in elements of two. Il-28s flew singly. Night air activity by jet fighters was held in clear weather. On the 22 July, 24 jet fighters repeatedly practiced flying in close order [redacted].

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6. Between 4 July and 5 August, night firing by AA guns was repeatedly observed. Such firing practices lasted from about 1800 until 2200. One Il-28 towing a sleeve target was definitely observed. The Il-28 crossed over the field in a west-east direction. Four to five searchlights caught the Il-28. Small caliber AA guns and large-caliber AA guns were involved in these firing practices. Sometimes flares were seen. <sup>2</sup>

7. Between 1600 and 1800 on 21 and 22 July, AA firing practices were observed in the vicinity of Buslow-Hoche near Paderborn. AA guns fired at a sleeve target which was towed by an Il-28. The sleeve target was divided into three sections: the rear third was blue, the middle white and the last third was black. When the aircraft approached the air space of Buslow-Hoche, AA guns fired at a rapid rate at the sleeve target. The points of burst indicated that the shells detonated near the target. <sup>2</sup>
- Between 1530 and about 1600 on 28 July, firing practices by AA guns at <sup>50 MiG-17s</sup> targets were again observed. The points of burst indicated that the shells detonated near the target. <sup>2</sup>
8. Between 4 July and 5 August, there was air activity by biplanes at Jueterbog airfield. Local flights were observed. <sup>3</sup>

1. Comment. It was assumed that Jueterbog airfield was still occupied by two fighter regiments. Intensified formation flying was also observed at other airfields in East Germany. Formation flights of 24 jets were observed several times. A total of 59 jet fighters were counted at the airfield. Information that about 50 MiG-17s were stationed Jueterbog airfield would indicate that there has been a total re-equipment of the fighter regiments with MiG-17s at this airfield. A U-MiG-17 is reported for the first time but not much credence can be given until confirmation is obtained. <sup>25X1</sup>

2. Comment. Target representation by 3 to 4 Il-28s, which were stationed at Jueterbog airfield, was reported previously. <sup>25X1</sup>
3. Comment. Po-2s are still stationed at Jueterbog airfield as liaison aircraft of Hq 3rd Gds Mecz Army. <sup>25X1</sup>

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